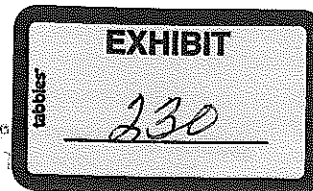


Paul E. Stacey
Department of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse Planning and Standards Division
79 Elm St.
Hartford, CT 06106-5127.

February 2, 2010

BUREAU OF WATER PROTECTION

OFFICE OF



FEB 04 2010

Dear Mr. Stacey

This letter is to voice our strong support for Streamflow Regulation. We hope it gets vigorous support and solid implementation; however, we would like to see the threat from Class 4 provisions removed. We appreciate that we should prioritize our assets; however Class 4 goes too far. As our waterways are so interconnected in the environment, to leave one damaged would result in damage to the overall environment.

Our rivers are key to the health of our environment and it would be foolhardy to further diminish their well being. At some point, we inflict real harm on ourselves by damaging the environment. And we have a moral obligation to provide responsible stewardship to the rest of the planet and to the future.

Many of the questions seem to relate to business, finance and governmental budgets. We feel the need to see the bigger picture here and focus on bringing back into balance the needs of the environment with the needs of people. The proposed Streamflow Regulation is a good start to improve on the current conditions and to re-establish and protect damaged ecosystems. Our hope is that these Regulations will be closely monitored not only to both improve and then maintain one of our most precious resources but to continue to improve on the regulation system itself.

We live very near the Quinnipiac and it adds greatly to our quality of life as a place to walk in the woods, watch birds, enjoy nature, fish, etc. It provides a scenic surrounding for local drives and day to day living which makes life far more pleasant. These benefits and pleasures are all a result of the community's commitment to rescuing the Quinnipiac River from a disrespected and abused past and have made it a highly valuable resource to the community and the environment.

The Quinnipiac River and other flowing waterways in CT need their fair share of the water resource to thrive. Thriving rivers are good for communities and that is good for the CT economy. A good quality of life is one of the main advantages of living in CT and we need to nurture that because there are many aspect of life in CT that could cause people to live elsewhere.

Please do not accommodate the special interests that wish to take excessive water for more profit or to simplify government budgets. We all need to find ways to function in a fair and responsible manner. For water users, that means respecting the environment by leaving enough water for nature's needs. In order for societies to survive and prosper the environment must survive and prosper as well.

Thanks to all who have contributed bringing Streamflow Regulation to this point. Please resist attempts to take water for selfish purposes and please strengthen the Regulation to limit the threats from Class 4.

Regards

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